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May 31, 2006

Jim L. Debardelaben
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Re:	Insured:	Town of Autaugaville
	File Number:	019918MM
	Claimant:	Ricardo Mathews
	Date of Loss:	January 1, 2004

Dear Jim:

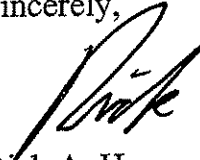
I am in receipt of your correspondence of May 24, 2006, in which you request that we provide you with discovery responses within the next seven (7) days. While I understand your eagerness to obtain these responses from my client, we believed that, under the local rules for the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama, civil discovery is not to commence prior to the Court's entry of a scheduling order under *Federal Rules of Civil Procedure* Rule 16(b). Apparently, this local rule has in fact been modified to allow such discovery. However, I would ask that we hold off on commencing discovery until the judge rules on our motion to dismiss and enter a scheduling order. I appreciate your understanding in this matter and look forward to working with you in this case.

**DEFENDANT'S
EXHIBIT**

NO. **A**

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick", written over a horizontal line.

Rick A. Howard

RAH/kjb

cc: Robert Faulk